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IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Pictographs of the North American Indians. A preliminary paper by GARRICK MALLERY. Fourth Report of the Bureau of Ethnology, pp. 1-256.

Taken in connection with the author's elaborate paper on sign language among the North American Indians, in the first volume of these Reports, and his other papers in progress but not yet published, Mr. Mallery's work is indispensable for all who are interested in expression of psychic processes by means more primitive than speech and writing. These studies are already so far advanced that types of execution may be expected to disclose data for priscan habitat and migration, as within each tribal or other system every Indian draws each figure in identical style. In this report nothing is attempted but to furnish a repertory for points on pictographic representation of ideas. The distribution of petroglyphs is very wide, from Eastern Canada to California, and extends far into South America. Pictographs on bone, wood, skins, gourds, and the human person, tattooing, the significance of colors, mnemonic quipu, etc., are discussed as illustrating the evolution of pictography. Then follows a very full explanation of the famous Lone Dog winter-count from 1801 to 1873, and of the still older count obtained by Dr. Corbusier which extends back to 1775, in which each year is marked by a pictograph of some distinctive event. Pictures of each of eighty-four totemic personal names of the Ogalala roster, and of two hundred and eighty-nine in the Red Cloud census, are given with English names appended. The symbolism of feathers, differently tufted, notched, painted; mystic personages, charms and fetishes, Shamanism, mortuary emblems, grave-post markings, pictographs illustrating daily life, tribal history, individual biography, modes of interpretation, frauds, and practical suggestions to collaborators, are topics which receive less attention. It is remarkable that no writer on this subject has extended his ken to take in and to attempt to co-ordinate the very different and independent work of the few chief writers, Darwin, Delsarte, Mantegazza, Clark, Mallery, and Warner.

Das Wachstum der Kinder. Prof. GAD. Humboldt, January, 1888.

After a short account of the special investigations on the topic of the growth of children since Quetelet, Dr. Gad proceeds to a convenient résumé of the very extensive investigation begun in 1882 by Malling-Hansen, director of a deaf-mute institute in Copenhagen, and now published in instalments. A system of weighing and measuring, daily and sometimes several times daily, was developed and applied, not without much expense, to 130 children in a way which inspires much confidence in the results, which are briefly as follows: Changes in the weight of children from nine to fifteen years are subject to three annual variations, viz. a maximal period, from August to the middle of December; a middle period, from the middle of December to April; a minimal period of three months, from the end of April to July. During the first period the increase of weight is three times as great as in the second, and all that is gained in the second is lost in the third period. There are three periods also of growth in height, viz. the minimal, from August to

the end of November ; the middle, lasting to the end of March ; and the maximal, from the last of March to the middle of August. The daily growth in height is twice as great in the middle as in the minimal period, and two and a half times as great in the maximal as in the minimal period. Thus the growth period extends from the end of March to December, and falls into two parts—first, the maximal period of height and then that of weight. Thus the minimal period of weight falls in the maximal period of height and *vice versa*. Increase of weight grows suddenly from a minimum to a maximum and then slowly declines, while increase of height comes on slowly and declines suddenly. In the maximal period of increasing height, growth in thickness is at its minimum, and conversely. He then infers that as much as possible of the periods of growth in both height and weight should fall for school children in the summer vacation. Besides these annual phases, these studies reveal growth periods of 25 and also of 75 days. Whether these are due to local meteorological conditions, as sun-rotation periods of 27 days, which Malling-Hansen calls growth energy, is not clear. The history of daily variations, especially in height, due in part to compression of cartilages and loss of elasticity of the arch of the foot caused by standing, and the converse effects of rest, is given with great detail for every hour of school life, and is full of interest. The author believes he has only obtained a very inadequate glimpse of a wide and rich field of research.

Le Surmenage Scolaire. Par CH. FÉRÉ. *Le Progrès Médical*, February 5, 1887.

The writer starts with the dictum of Spencer that the first condition of national prosperity is that the nation be formed of good animals. Sedentary life and intellectual work have always tended to become unnatural. Tissot, in his acute work on the health of men of letters, written in the last century, and Réveillé-Parise, in his book on the physiology of men devoted to mental work, Rousseau, and more recently Lagneau and Dujardin-Beaumetz, have directed public attention, with increasing explicitness, to the dangers of sedentary mental work, which are : I. Those due to unfit places. The site is often badly chosen. If the rooms are small there is more danger of contagious affections ; insufficient air gradually impoverishes the blood, and anaemia, chlorosis, depression, bring receptivity to all morbid influences. II. Haste in eating, bad cooking, and food unscientifically chosen, cause defective nutrition of some parts or organs of the body. III. Clothing is often unpedagogic in form or thickness. Because of the proportion of surface to mass of body, children, it is known, lose relatively more heat than adults, and it is often forgotten that clothing is to an extent a caloric equivalent of heat, and that brain-workers need to dress warmer than muscle-workers. IV. Insufficient exercise brings constipation, then slow blood and nutrition so ill adapted to growth that even the teeth are starved into bad development and piles and incipient sexual weaknesses appear. V. Excessive labor is laid on the eyes and sometimes the fingers. VI. Bad attitudes. The race has hardly had time to adapt itself to sedentary intellectual life. Lying on the back is particularly favorable to brain circulation. According to elaborate statistics by Guillaume, the percentage of girls and boys who are more or less deformed by bad attitudes is